

R. Edgren's COLUMN

BEST SPORTING PAGE IN NEW YORK

LIEUT. HOBEY BAKER "DOWNS HIS GERMAN"

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IN FOOTBALL
HOBEY ALWAYS
DOWNED
HIS MAN...

Hobey Baker's New Feats Will Outclass Anything He Ever Did On the Athletic Field.

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HOBEY BAKER is "making good" again.

Baker always did make good. But his new feats will outclass anything he ever did on the athletic field. The Princeton athlete is now a Lieutenant in the American Flying Corps. He is "somewhere in France."

And Lieut. Hobey Baker has just brought down his first German plane. He got his first German Saturday. The event was given a brief mention in the war news. No details—just the plain statement that it had been done. To the War Department the shooting down of an enemy plane is just a part of the day's work. But to the thousands of friends of Hobey Baker it announces the beginning of a new career that may be as great—with an ordinary share of good luck—as that of any of the famous aviators of Canada, France, England or Italy.

Hobey Baker has very unusual advantages as a fighting man. He is one man in thousands—one of the greatest athletes ever developed in American schools and colleges.

When Hobey was at Princeton he was a famous football player, a great baseball player, and rated top list in many other sports. He captained the football and the baseball teams. His gridiron feats filled hundreds of sporting columns. He was picked for the "All-American Eleven" by scores of football critics. There wasn't the slightest doubt that he was the best ice hockey player in America. In that game he was absolute king. And Princeton coaches have told me that Hobey Baker showed such remarkable speed that had he chosen the track as one of the limited number of major sports he was allowed to compete in he would have been a 2-4-second man in the 100-yard dash. It is said that he once ran 100 yards on the Princeton track, clad in a football suit and in football shoes, in 10 seconds flat.

When Hobey Baker graduated and was known no more to the Princeton teams he was still the hero of the Princetonians who followed closely his hockey play with a club team, and listened with interest to the news that Hobey Baker had enlisted for the aviation service. This was years ago, when there was little reason to think that the United States would soon be in the big war that was just beginning. But Hobey probably expected to have his chance. In any case, flying, and war flying, offered a new adventure—a thrill greater than any he had ever known before, even if he went through his war far from the applause of the gathered multitudes that had always roared his name from the side lines.

The first time I saw Hobey Baker, after he had gone into the Aviation Corps as a student, was in one of his first long flights. It was on the day of a Princeton-Harvard game at Princeton. While the game was on two specks appeared above the northern horizon. They grew until it was seen that they were army planes. One of the planes circled above the field, and spiraling down to a moderate height sailed slowly overhead and turned again to the north.

"It's Baker," yelled a megaphone cheer leader. "It's Hobey Baker." And so it was. Hobey had flown down to see his old team win—to see the game as he had never seen it before. After that there were occasional reports about Hobey's increasing skill. He took long flights and became a first class aviator.

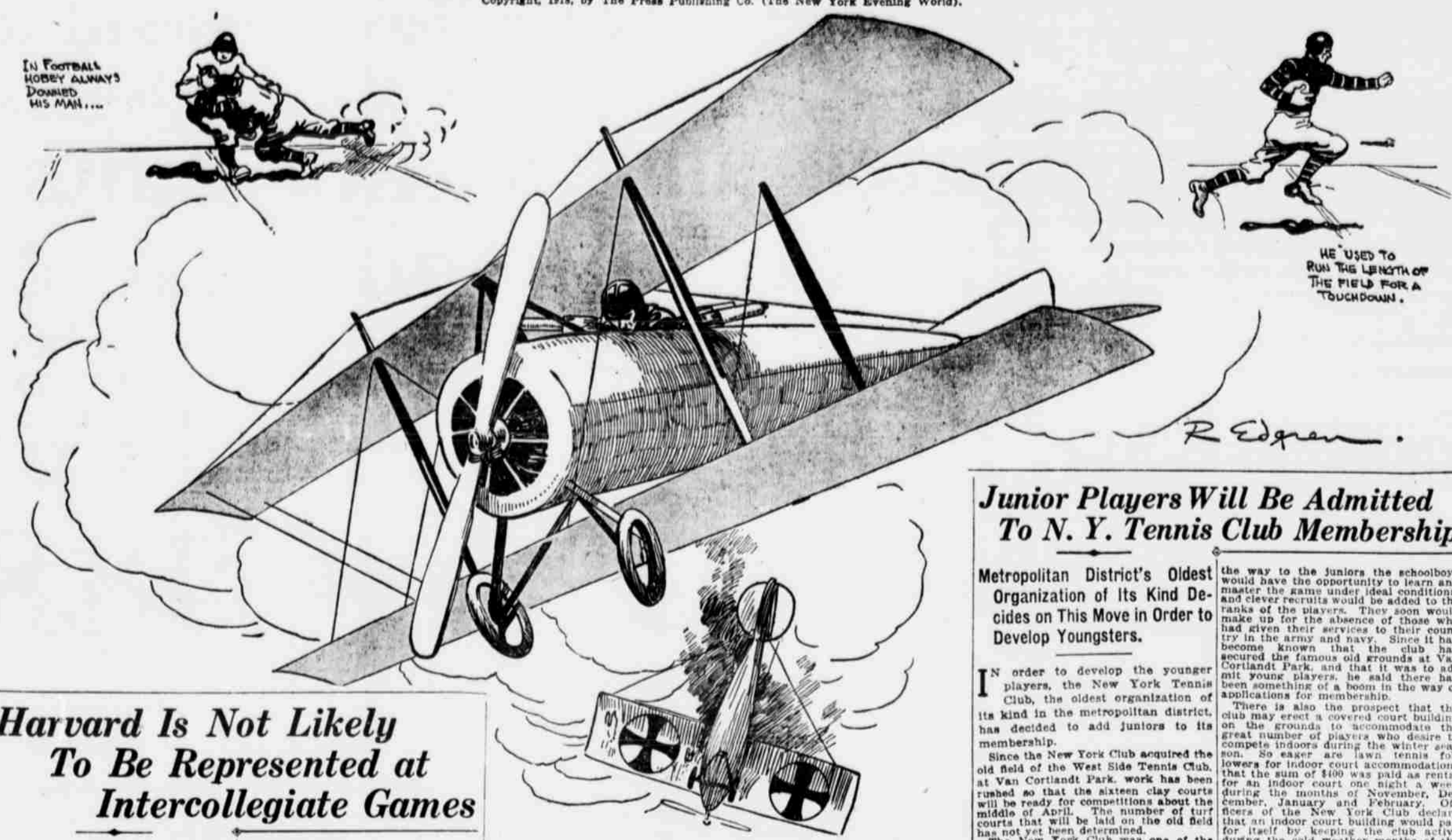
And now he is on the actual fighting line, and has "brought down his German." If there is anything in natural skill and courage, in clear-headedness, in all-around athletic prowess and the fighting spirit that fits a man with aggressive action, in the cool-headed generalship that makes a man sought after as captain of his college teams—and in the luck that follows the successful Lieut. Hobey Baker will make his mark in this war.

COACH RICE has the Columbia crew in training. He hopes to have a large number of new men out, nearly all the old crew having gone into the army or the navy. The uncertainty that surrounds the future of the sport this year isn't affecting him. This is the right spirit. It will be seen in many American colleges. The idea of "informal" athletic competition has been discarded nearly everywhere, and it would not be surprising to see some of the big football games played this fall.

THE N. Y. A. C. didn't need to increase its dues because of added expenses caused by war times. The club is in the fortunate position of always having a large waiting list. It will find no trouble at all in increasing the membership to the new limit adopted at the annual meeting Tuesday night. There are few clubs anywhere in the world that offer so many advantages to their members.

Willie Reilly, West Side Fighter and Manager, Dies.

Willie Reilly, who has been identified with boxing, died yesterday morning at his home, 205 Tenth Avenue, of Bright's disease. He was twenty-six years old. He started boxing when fourteen years old. He won high money and was held for him at St. Raphael's Church Saturday morning.



Harvard Is Not Likely To Be Represented at Intercollegiate Games

I. C. A. A. A. Constitution Forbids Appearance of Athletes Competing as Individuals Rather Than as a Team, Which Is Contrary to Crimison's Announced Policy.

HARVARD'S decision not to be represented by a team on track and field this season is likely to deprive the university of representation at the intercollegiate championships in the spring. There is a rule of the I. C. A. A. A. that athletes must compete as a team, not as individuals, in these events. There is such a thing that the constitution may be changed to permit of Harvard's representation in the meet.

However, Harvard recently announced its intention of not being represented in any way at the championship games if championship titles are awarded.

It is said on good authority that there is little likelihood of the I. C. A. A. A. adopting legislation eliminating title competition.

The annual convention of the I. C. A. A. A. is to be held at the Waldorf-Astoria on March 2, and from present indications the only business that will come before that body will be routine. When the association undertook a month ago to ascertain the sentiment of its members relative to the holding of the 1918 games it was generally understood that the championship feature would be retained, and in fact, Yale, Cornell, Pennsylvania and all the members of the association with the exception of Princeton and M. I. T. replied that they would be glad to take part. Harvard likewise agreed to send athletes, but said it did not wish to enter the team competition.

Meanwhile Pouch Donovan is waiting for the time in appropriating his track material and getting together a squad which will compete in the Boston A. A. games on Feb. 2. There will be two informal varsity relay teams, one freshman relay team and several individual entries.

The two varsity teams to be selected will be the 330 and 780 yards, respectively, so that Donovan's work will be largely with sprinters. In addition to competing in the B. A. A. meet it is probable the Crimison will have men in the Irish-American A. A. and the Lawrence Light Guard games, both to be held in Boston later in the winter.

Schoolboy athletes will hold the floor on Saturday, Jan. 26, when the P. S. A. L. High school indoor track and field championship games will be held at the 23d Regiment Armory in Brooklyn. The High School Games Committee has stirred up greater interest in the forthcoming meet than was ever aroused for any similar competition in the past, and it is expected that every school in the league will be represented in every event by at least one athlete.

As an additional feature, the committee has arranged to have the final championship game in the Brooklyn-Queens basketball series played after the meet. This will be between the winning teams in the Brooklyn and Queens divisions, and the winner will be entitled to meet Manhattan for the city title.

Although the Millrose A. A. meet is two weeks away, there are indications that the number of entries will be greater than at any of the previous indoor carnivals of the club. Furthermore, the number of star athletes, although diminished in large measure, will still be worthy of note. Earle Eby, the national 660-yard indoor champion, now a Sergeant in Company 1st Infantry, will run in the Millrose 660, and there is a chance that Don Scott, the national half-mile champion in 1916, will also be seen in that race. Scott is now a Lieutenant in the Regular Army.

The defeat of Stanley Erickson in ten rounds by Harry Carlson, the Boston fighter, at the Astor A. A. of Boston on Tuesday night, has been responsible for Billy Group calling off the ten-round bout between Erickson and Alvin Mack at the Group Gymnasium A. A. tomorrow night. Group has cancelled his membership card for that evening, until Friday evening, Jan. 18. Mack will meet some good heavyweight in the main bout.

The District Executive Board of San Francisco has refused Willie Reilly's claim that he should not be put in class one under the new questionnaire. No word has been received from him as to whether he will agree to go to Boston in exchange for Doyle and Barnes. It is announced at the Giants' headquarters that no trouble is anticipated from Herzog, and if he does refuse to agree to the transfer the Boston Club will have to arrange the matter.

There still may be a deal between the Pirates and the Cardinals. The former want Frank Snyder, catcher, very much and are said to be willing to give Bill Fischer, also a catcher, in return. Like Oliver Twist, the Cardinals' reply is "more!"

WILLIAMSTOWN, Jan. 10.—Ira Thomas, former catcher of the Philadelphia Athletics and right hand man of Connie Mack, will return here to coach the Williams baseball nine this spring, according to an announcement made by Shepard, manager of the Purple nine, today.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Jan. 10.—Dr. John C. Lavan, former member of the St. Louis Americans, who with Bert Shotton, was recently traded to the Washington Americans, announced here today that he has been named as a first lieutenant in the Medical Reserve Corps, and that he is further stated, and a series of games will be played with the soldiers during the training period. The Cincinnati Club will report at Camp Sheridan on March 15.

CINCINNATI, O., Jan. 10.—The Cincinnati National League Baseball Club today announced that Montgomery, Ala., had been selected as training grounds for this spring. A site has been obtained within the military cantonment. It is further stated, and a series of games will be played with the soldiers during the training period. The Cincinnati Club will report at Camp Sheridan on March 15.

WEST POINT, N. Y., Jan. 10.—The Army hockey schedule for this winter is announced. Thirteen games will be played, all of which will be played at home. Cadet Nichols, '20, is Captain and Cadet West, '18, manager. A feature of the season will be the game with the Camp Upton team of Yaphank. The schedule follows:

Jan. 9, New York Military Academy, 12, Riverdale (home); 13, West Point (away); 14, West Point (home); 15, West Point (home); 16, West Point (home); 17, West Point (home); 18, West Point (home); 19, West Point (home); 20, West Point (home); 21, West Point (home); 22, West Point (home); 23, West Point (home); 24, West Point (home); 25, West Point (home); 26, West Point (home); 27, West Point (home); 28, West Point (home); 29, West Point (home); 30, West Point (home); 31, West Point (home).

Fistic News and Gossip

Those two good welterweights, Jack Britton, the former holder of the title, and Tommy Robson of Malden, Mass., are going to have it out in another scrap. This time they will battle for a decision, they having been signed up to-day by John Doherty, the promoter of Providence, R. I., to clash for twelve rounds before the National A. C. on Wednesday evening, Jan. 16. It will be their second meeting, their previous battle having been fought at Lawrence, Mass., on Feb. 28, 1917, and resulted in a twelve-round draw.

Johnny Tullman, the crack fighter of St. Paul, and Irish Patsy Cline of this city have just been matched to meet in a return battle of six rounds at the Olympia A. A. of Philadelphia on Monday night. They fought at the same club recently, Tullman having the better of the contest. The manager of Cline, after the bout, claimed that Tullman weighed considerably more than Cline.

Joe Lench of the west side, who is developing into one of the best bantams in the fistic profession, was today matched to meet Kid Wolfe, the promising bantamweight of Cleveland, in a fifteen-round bout at a show to be brought off at Akron, O., on the night of Jan. 20. Matt Hinkel, the promoter and referee of Cleveland, clinched the match.

Jack Dempsey, the likely heavyweight of Seattle, Wash., who is expected to be matched to meet Victor Gustafson A. A. tomorrow night, was today matched to meet Kid Wolfe, the promising bantamweight of Cleveland, in a fifteen-round bout at a show to be brought off at Akron, O., on the night of Jan. 20. Matt Hinkel, the promoter and referee of Cleveland, clinched the match.

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Junior Players Will Be Admitted To N. Y. Tennis Club Membership

Metropolitan District's Oldest Organization of Its Kind Decides on This Move in Order to Develop Youngsters.

IN order to develop the younger players, the New York Tennis Club, the oldest organization of its kind in the metropolitan district, has decided to admit juniors to its membership.

Since the New York Club acquired the old field of the West Side Tennis Club, at Van Cortlandt Park, work has been rushed so that the sixteen clay courts would be ready for competition about the middle of April. The number of turf courts that will be laid on the old field has not yet been determined.

The New York Club was one of the few in the metropolitan district last season that had its tournament according to the National Association schedule. S. Howard Voshell was the winner in the singles.

President Winne said that by opening the way to the juniors the schoolboys would have the opportunity to learn and master the game under ideal conditions, and clever recruits would be added to the ranks of the players. They soon would make up for the absence of those who had given their services to their country in the army and navy. Since it had become known that the club had secured the famous old grounds at Van Cortlandt Park, and that it was to admit young players, he said there had been something of a boom in the way of applications for membership.

There is also the prospect that the club may erect a covered court building on the grounds to accommodate the great number of players who desire to compete indoors during the winter season. So eager are lawn tennis followers for indoor court accommodations that the sum of \$100 was paid as rental for an indoor court one night a week during the months of November, December, January and February. Officers of the New York Club declare that an indoor court building would pay for itself by keeping the club alive during the cold weather months of the year.

Several changes will be made in the list of officers for the coming year. The membership is unanimous, however, as to retaining Christopher B. Winne as President.

WEINERT WINS AWARD OVER GUNBOAT SMITH.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Jan. 10.—Charles Weinert, the fast young heavyweight of Newark, N. J., received the referee's decision over Gunboat Smith here last night at the end of their twelve-round bout. It was a fast fight up to fifth, when Weinert came to the front and won as he pleased, having the Gunner in bad shape in both the seventh and tenth periods.

Skating Races at the Crystal Carnival Ice Rink.

The first of a series of ice skating races will be held in the Crystal Carnival Ice Rink, Thomas Healy's new sport and dining establishment, at Broadway and 56th Street, next Monday evening. There will be two events, a mile handicap and a half-mile novice. Gold and silver medals will be awarded. The rink is twenty-one laps to the mile. The meet is held under the auspices of the new Jackson-Hartness Skating Club. Time for practice will be allowed every afternoon and evening this week after the regular skating sessions.

Pinochle Query Answered.

A and B at pinochle. B plays card not a trump. A takes a trick, a dix and attempts to include the dix also in the meld. Can he do it?

The dix cannot be melded after it has been used to take a trick. It should have been melded before.

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HOOKS AND SLICES

By William Abbott.

THE Southern golf season has been eased off to a slow start because of the railroad congestion. It had been the plan of scores of New Yorkers to go South soon after the holidays and club the little pill around for a few weeks, but Director General McAdoo stymied these arrangements when he ordered wholesale curtailment of long-distance passenger service. It would be perfectly delightful roaming over Belleair or any of the other leading Southern courses right now, but one does not know how long he'd be on the road, so uncertain are travelling conditions.

White Sulphur Springs has temporarily suspended most of its golfing activity and it is feared that Palm Beach and other prominent winter resorts will be compelled to do likewise.

Yet your regular golfer must go somewhere. If he can go down in the land of cotton for a few turns of the links he'll most likely slip indoors and begin to try out a new grip a well meaning friend has probably tipped him off to.

The Wannamaker School has started operations for the season and the twelve professionals are kept pretty much on the move explaining how the game should be played.

Undaunted by the uncertain railroad situation three pros, William Scott of Montclair, John Langlands of Weequahic Park, and Alec Milne, have begun a pilgrimage to the land of sugar cane and winter golf courses. There's really no reason for any pro being idle during the winter months, between the indoor schools and the many openings down South.

A number of clubs have already sent to Howard Whitney, Secretary of the United States Golf Association, a list of their members who are now performing war duty. The U. S. G. A. is anxious to hear from every club in the organization as soon as possible, so that the complete number of golfers now serving their Uncle Samuel may be known.

K. of C. Seven Favorite.

The Knights' of Columbus hockey players from Canada are ruling favorites in the game scheduled with the Wanderers at the St. Nicholas Rink on Saturday night. The team from the Dominion is really an aggregation of stars composed of veterans from St. Michael's, St. Ann's and other leading teams that have been disbanded.

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